

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A statistical multiplex transmission system for use in a network which includes a first local area ~~asynchronous-transfer mode (ATM)~~ network including a plurality of first terminal devices, a second local area [[ATM]] network including a plurality of second terminal devices, and a public [[ATM]] network connected to said first and second [[ATM]] networks, comprising:

a first multiplex gateway device for connecting said first local area [[ATM]] network and said public [[ATM]] network;

a second multiplex gateway device for connecting said second local area [[ATM]] network and said public [[ATM]] network,

wherein said first and second multiplex gateway devices are configured to:

receive [[ATM]] transmission signals from said first and second local area [[ATM]] networks, respectively,

perform a statistical multiplexing process to determine statistical information based on a mean rate and a peak cell rate associated with said [[ATM]] transmission signals and generate transmission statistical multiplex signals based on the statistical information, and

transmit said transmission statistical multiplex signals to said public [[ATM]] network;

a statistical multiplexing control unit, operably connected to one of the first or second

multiplex gateway device, for performing a rate addition after said statistical multiplexing process according to statistical information from said transmission signals.

2. (previously presented) The statistical multiplex transmission system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first and second multiplex gateway devices are configured to transmit said transmission statistical multiplex signals by a piece-wise constant bit rate transmission system including a transmission rate which varies in a predetermined time interval after the statistical multiplexing process.

3. (currently amended) The statistical multiplex transmission system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first and second multiplex gateway devices are configured to:

- receive said transmission statistical multiplex signals,
- separate said transmission statistical multiplex signals, and
- generate a plurality of receiving [[ATM]] signals, and

wherein said first and second multiplex gateway devices are configured to transmit said receiving [[ATM]] signals to said first and second terminal devices through said first and second local area [[ATM]] networks, respectively.

4. (currently amended) The statistical multiplex transmission system as claimed in claim 3, wherein said first and second multiplex gateway devices comprise:

- first means for calculating the statistical information represented by a mean rate and a peak cell rate of [[ATM]] cells in said [[ATM]] transmission signals; and

second means for performing a multiplexing process on said [[ATM]] cells according to said statistical information, and for transmitting said transmission statistical multiplex signals to said public [[ATM]] network.

5. (previously presented) The statistical multiplex transmission system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said second means includes:

third means for conducting rate addition after the multiplexing process according to said statistical information and for determining a rate addition result;

fourth means for calculating a required piece-wise constant bit rate on the basis of said rate addition result, and for performing cell multiplex control on the basis of said piece-wise constant bit rate; and

fifth means for transmitting said transmission statistical multiplex signal according to said cell multiplex control.

6. (currently amended) The statistical multiplex transmission system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said fifth means receives said transmission statistical multiplex signal to separate said transmission statistical multiplex signal, and generates a receiving [[ATM]] signal.

7. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising:
a control unit operably connected to said first multiplex gateway device,
wherein the control unit re-negotiates a transmission rate of said transmission statistical multiplex signals after said statistical multiplexing process, in a predetermined time interval,

through adaptive control of parameters acquired from the [[ATM]] transmission signals.

8. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of first and second terminal devices are International Telecommunications Union (ITU) recommendation H.310 compliant.

9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) The system of claim [[9]] 1, further comprising:
a piece-wise constant bit rate control unit, operably connected to the statistical multiplexing control unit, for receiving the rate addition calculation from said statistical multiplexing control unit, and calculating a piece-wise constant bit rate for transmission of said transmission statistical multiplex signals to said public [[ATM]] network.

11. (currently amended) The system of claim [[9]] 1, further comprising:
~~an ATM~~ a transmission line unit, operably connected to the statistical multiplexing control unit, for calculating the statistical information from [[ATM]] cells in said [[ATM]] transmission signals, and transmitting the statistical information and the [[ATM]] cells to an ~~an~~ ATM a cell multiplexing/demultiplexing unit.

12. (currently amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the [[ATM]] cell multiplexing/demultiplexing unit is operably connected to one of the first or second multiplex

gateway device, and performs cell multiplexing control on the basis of the piece-wise constant bit rate, and

wherein the [[ATM]] cell multiplexing/demultiplexing unit transmits the transmission statistical multiplex signals to the statistical multiplexing control unit.

13. (currently amended) A statistical multiplex transmission system for use in a network that includes a first local area ~~Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM)~~ network including a plurality of first terminal devices, a second local area [[ATM]] network including a plurality of second terminal devices, and a public [[ATM]] network connected to said first and second [[ATM]] networks, the system comprising:

a first multiplex gateway device for connecting said first local area [[ATM]] network and said public [[ATM]] network;

a second multiplex gateway device for connecting said second local area [[ATM]] network and said public [[ATM]] network,

wherein said first and second multiplex gateway devices are configured to:

receive [[ATM]] transmission signals from said first and second local area [[ATM]] networks, respectively,

perform a statistical multiplexing process to determine statistical information based on a mean rate and a peak cell rate associated with said [[ATM]] transmission signals and generate statistical multiplex transmission signals based on the statistical information, and

transmit said statistical multiplex transmission signals to said public [[ATM]]

network based on a piece-wise constant bit rate that varies in a predetermined time interval;

a statistical multiplexing control unit, operably connected to the first or second multiplex gateway device, for performing a rate addition after said statistical multiplexing process according to statistical information from said transmission signals.

14. (currently amended) The system of claim 13, further comprising:
a control unit, operably connected to said first multiplex gateway device,
wherein the control unit re-negotiates a transmission rate of said statistical multiplex transmission signals after said statistical multiplexing process, in a predetermined time interval, through adaptive control of parameters acquired from the [[ATM]] transmission signals.

15. (previously presented) The system of claim 13, wherein the plurality of first and second terminal devices are International Telecommunications Union (ITU) recommendation H.310 compliant.

16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) The system of claim [[16]] 13, further comprising:
a piece-wise constant bit rate control unit, operably connected to the statistical multiplexing control unit, for receiving a result of the rate addition from said statistical multiplexing control unit and calculating a piece-wise constant bit rate for transmission of said

statistical multiplex transmission signals to said public [[ATM]] network based on the result of the rate addition.

18. (currently amended) The system of claim [[16]] 13, further comprising:
~~an ATM~~ a transmission line unit, operably connected to the statistical multiplexing control unit, for calculating statistical information of [[ATM]] cells in said [[ATM]] transmission signals, and transmitting the statistical information and the [[ATM]] cells to ~~an ATM~~ a cell multiplexing/demultiplexing unit.

19. (currently amended) The system of claim 18, wherein the [[ATM]] cell multiplexing/demultiplexing unit is operably connected to one of said first or second multiplex gateway device, and performs cell multiplexing control on the basis of the piece-wise constant bit rate, and

wherein the [[ATM]] cell multiplexing/demultiplexing unit transmits the statistical multiplex transmission signals to the statistical multiplexing control unit.

20. (currently amended) A method for statistical multiplex data transmission in ~~an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM)~~ a network including a first local area [[ATM]] network connected to a plurality of first terminal devices, a second local area [[ATM]] network connected to a plurality of second terminal devices, and a public [[ATM]] network connected to said first and second [[ATM]] networks, the method comprising:

connecting a first multiplex gateway device to said first local area [[ATM]] network and

said public [[ATM]] network;

connecting a second multiplex gateway device to said second local area [[ATM]] network
and said public [[ATM]] network;

receiving ATM transmission signals from said first and second local area [[ATM]]
networks into said first and second multiplex gateway devices, respectively;

performing a statistical multiplexing process to determine statistical information based on
a mean rate and a peak cell rate associated with said [[ATM]] transmission signals and generate
transmission statistical multiplex signals based on the statistical information; [[and]]

transmitting said transmission statistical multiplex signals to said public [[ATM]]
network based on a piece-wise constant bit rate that varies in a predetermined time interval after
the statistical multiplexing process; and

performing a rate addition after said statistical multiplexing process according to
statistical information from said transmission signals.

21. (canceled)

22. (currently amended) The method of claim [[21]] 20, further comprising:

receiving a result of the rate addition; and

calculating a piece-wise constant bit rate for transmission of said transmission statistical
multiplex signals to said public [[ATM]] network based on the result of the rate addition.

23. (currently amended) The method of claim 22, further comprising:
calculating statistical information of [[ATM]] cells in said [[ATM]] transmission signals,
and
transmitting the statistical information and the [[ATM]] cells to ~~an ATM~~ a cell
multiplexing/demultiplexing unit.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 23, further comprising:
performing cell multiplexing control on the basis of the piece-wise constant bit rate.

25. (currently amended) A statistical multiplexing device, comprising:
a plurality of [[ATM]] transmission line units to:
receive [[ATM]] transmission signals, and
perform a statistical multiplexing process to determine statistical information
based on a mean rate and a peak cell rate associated with the [[ATM]] transmission
signals;
a first control unit to determine a piece-wise constant bit rate based on the statistical
information; and
~~an ATM~~ a multiplexing/demultiplexing unit to:
generate statistical multiplex signals based on the piece-wise constant bit rate, and
transmit the statistical multiplex signals to a public [[ATM]] network; and
a second control unit to perform a rate addition after the statistical multiplexing process
according to statistical information from the transmission signals.

26. (currently amended) A statistical multiplexing method performed by a network device, comprising:

- receiving [[ATM]] transmission signals;
- performing a statistical multiplexing process to determine statistical information based on a mean rate and a peak cell rate associated with the [[ATM]] transmission signals;
- determining a piece-wise constant bit rate based on the statistical information;
- generating statistical multiplex signals based on the piece-wise constant bit rate; [[and]]
- transmitting the statistical multiplex signals to a public [[ATM]] network; and
- performing a rate addition after the statistical multiplexing process according to statistical information from the transmission signals.